

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 OES-07 SAB-02 IO-13 EB-08 /091 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/ECP:LPETERS:JD
APPROVED BY ARA/ECP:SHROGERS
ARA/AND:RBARNEBY (SUBSTANCE)
ARA/CAR:FTUMMINIA (SUBSTANCE)
-----050831 022111Z /70

P 022027Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 181114

PORT OF SPAIN FOR ARELLANO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, VE

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS ON CARIBBEAN

REF: A) CARACAS 7380, B) VAKY-ROGERS TELCON

1. PURSUANT TO TELEPHONE CONVERSATION OF YESTERDAY RICHARD ARELLANO WILL NOT PLAN ON VISITING CARACAS NOW.

2. WHEN YOU NEXT SEE CAP, YOU MAY WISH TO TELL HIM, WE ARE GIVING CONSIDERABLE THOUGHT TO THE CARIBBEAN INCLUDING CAP'S PROPOSAL FOR A CONSORTIUM. WE SEE A NUMBER OF ISSUES THAT REMAIN TO BE RESOLVED, INCLUDING:

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A. WHICH CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES CAN BEST BE ASSISTED AND WOULD BE MOST RESPONSIVE TO A CONSORTIUM PROPOSAL. FOR EXAMPLE, A CONSORTIUM LIMITED TO THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING COMMONWEALTH ENTITIES MIGHT HAVE BETTER CHANCE OF PRACTICAL RESULTS THAN ONE WHICH ATTEMPTS TO TAKE IN HAITI AND THE DR AS WELL, BUT IT MIGHT ALSO TEND TO REINFORCE DIVISIONS BETWEEN ENGLISH-SPEAKING COUNTRIES AND OTHERS.

B. THE CHOICE OF A SUITABLE INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK: THE SELECTION OF THE CDB, IDB, OR IBRD WOULD DEPEND ON WHICH COUNTRIES ONE WISHES TO INCLUDE AND THE ULTIMATE PURPOSES

OF THE CONSORTIUM. CDB AND IBRD, FOR EXAMPLE, HAVE MORE EXPERTISE IN THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING CARIBBEAN THAN THE IDB.

C. THE DONOR COUNTRIES WHICH MIGHT APPROPRIATELY BE INVOLVED: CAP'S LIST IS OBVIOUSLY ONLY PARTIAL. WE WOULD ALSO HOPE TO SEE THE UK, TRINIDAD, AND POSSIBLY THE DUTCH AND OTHER EUROPEANS INCLUDED IF THEY DESIRE. WE SUSPECT THERE ARE ALSO MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS UNDP THAT MIGHT BE INTERESTED.

D. THE NATURE OF PRELIMINARY MEETINGS LEADING TOWARD SUCH A CONSORTIUM: CAP'S PROPOSAL FOR A MEETING IN WASHINGTON IS INTERESTING BUT WE DO NOT THINK A MEETING OF AMBASSADORS WOULD BE THE SUITABLE FORMAT AND WE ARE NOT CERTAIN THAT A MEETING AMONG DONORS ONLY IS THE WAY TO BEGIN. WE ARE THINKING OF TRYING TO ENCOURAGE A HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE CDB AND INCLUDING BOTH POTENTIAL DONORS AND THE COMMONWEALTH CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES. THE IDEA WOULD BE TO GAIN FULLER UNDERSTANDING OF THE NEEDS OF THESE STATES AND ENTITIES AND PERHAPS PAVE THE WAY FOR FULLER ACCEPTANCE OF THE IDEA OF A CONFIDENTIAL

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CONSORTIUM.

3. AID/LA ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR VALDEZ, WHO WILL BE ACCOMPANYING AMBASSADOR YOUNG, MAY BE EXPLORING SOME OF THESE SAME ISSUES IN VARIOUS CAPITALS BEGINNING AUGUST 8. YOU MAY WISH TO DISCUSS THIS ISSUE WITH HIM SHOULD AN OPPORTUNITY ARISE. CHRISTOPHER

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